

Inclusion of coconut in the National Horticulture Mission

2575. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether coconut is also included in the National Horticulture Mission;
- (b) if not, the reason therefor;
- (c) whether Government have received any representation to include it in the Mission; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government has constituted a separate Commodity Board viz. Coconut Development Board as a statutory body with its headquarter at Kochi, Kerala State under the administrative control of the Ministry of Agriculture. The objectives of the Board is to promote the overall development of coconut farming and industry in India by implementing various programmes. The Board has also launched a Technology Mission on Coconut since 2001-02 in view of the programmes of the Coconut Development Board, coconut is not included in the National Horticulture Mission.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Encouraging the use of low nutrient analysis fertilizers

2576. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to encourage use of low nutrient analysis fertilizer products such as NP 16:20, NP 20:20, Ammonium Sulphate, etc.; and
- (b) the details of steps being taken to supplement identified deficiencies of sulphur and zinc in the soil, especially in South India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The fertilizers which have proven efficiency for increasing the Agriculture Production are included in Schedule I, Part A of FCO, 1985 for their promotion. The complex fertilizer namely 20:20:0, 16:20:0 and Ammonium Sulphate are included in FCO. Also 20:20:0 and 16:20:0 are included in the Concession scheme for Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers.

(b) To supplement identified deficiencies of sulphur and zinc in the soil, Sulphur has been included as an essential nutrient in the FCO, 1985. Also there are many identified products of Sulphur which are included in Schedule I, Part A of the FCO. Similarly, to meet the deficiency of zinc in crop & soil Zinc Sulphate Monohydrate, Zinc Sulphate Hepta Hydrate & Chelated Zinc have been included in FCO as straight micronutrient fertilizer.

Shortage of milk at Mother Dairy booths

†2577. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that supply of milk to consumers has reduced due to shortage of milk at Mother Dairy booths in Delhi caused by occurrence of flood in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the percentage of shortage of milk; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir. Supply of milk to consumers at present at Mother Dairy booths has not reduced due to floods in Gujarat.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of the reply at (a) above.

Diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes

2578. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that suggestions have been received to conserve

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.